

LYNCHBURG CITY COUNCIL REPORT

Meeting Date: January 15, 2002

Council Report # 12

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Subject: Housing and Non-housing Goals for 2000-2005 Consolidated Plan

Purpose of Action:

- Public hearing to consider citizen input for housing and non-housing goals.

Requested Action: Conduct a public hearing

Prior Action: None

Attachments: Housing and Non-housing goals from 2000-2005 Consolidated Plan

Resolution/Ordinance: None at this time.

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Other Information: The community receives Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds on an entitlement basis each year from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (DHUD). Associated with this funding and, also, the HOME Program, current DHUD regulations require entitlement communities to conduct at least two public hearings annually.

Consistent with past practice, City Council conducts one such public hearing in March/April of each year in order to receive citizen input with regard to those projects that are scheduled to receive such federal funding in the next fiscal year. In order both to satisfy the above-referenced public hearing and to receive further citizen input, a public hearing is scheduled at this time to receive comments regarding the stated goals within the 2000-2005 Community Development Consolidated Plan.

2000-2005 CONSOLIDATED PLAN GOALS

Housing Goals

- Provide priority assistance to programs designed to create new home ownership opportunities available to low- and moderate-income buyers.
- Increase the number of owner-occupied housing units through support of public and private homebuyer programs. Emphasis is to be placed on programs, which require an investment of funds and/or labor on the part of the buyer, which are commensurate with the buyer's resources.
- Rehabilitate substandard housing units through support of public and private programs. Emphasis is to be placed on programs, which require an investment of funds and/or labor on the part of the owner, which are commensurate with the owner's resources. In addition, maintenance of homes will be enforced through applicable ordinances and building code requirements, and through owner initiatives to rehabilitate existing rental properties.
- Support initiatives to increase permanent affordable housing opportunities for low-income households and Special Needs Populations* and encourage regional cooperation of this goal throughout the Central Virginia Planning District.

*Special Needs Populations include, but are not limited to, the mentally ill/mentally disabled, physically disabled persons, substance abusers/addicts, persons with AIDS, the homeless, and elderly persons in need of supportive housing.

Non-Housing Goals

- Support economic development efforts, which will expand job opportunities and support job retention for low- and moderate-income individuals. Continue to take actions, which stimulate private, as well as public investment in designated enterprise zones.
- Eliminate neighborhood deterioration, blight and blighting influences through staged redevelopment of public infrastructure, rehabilitation activities, code enforcement, or clearance where needed.
- Support the improvement or development of neighborhood and community centers, which are integral to sound community development, and to the general health, safety, and public well being of the community.
- Support park and recreation improvements in relation to community need, particularly for low- to moderate-income persons or neighborhoods.
- Encourage the preservation of properties of special value for historic, architectural, or aesthetic reasons.